

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the patent application.

It is respectfully requested that Applicants' arguments of record be incorporated herein.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 4-6, 8-12, 14, 15, and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rangan et al. (hereinafter Rangan) in view of Chen et al. (hereinafter Chen). Applicants traverse the rejection.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1, 11, and 12, the Office Action states that Rangan discloses a method for indicating the location of a time dependent video hypervideo hyperlink to a user, comprising the steps of displaying a video presentation on at least a portion of a display device screen, the video presentation including a hypervideo hyperlink; and providing the user, at the time of viewing, with at least one user selectable display attribute for said hypervideo hyperlink. The Office admits that Rangan "does not clearly show hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region", as claimed by Applicants. However, the Office relies upon Chen for a showing of the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region.

The Office concludes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add the hot link region of Chen into Rangan's hypervideo hyperlinks for the purpose of a user being able to alter and manipulate a visual attribute of the hot link region.

Applicants' claim 1 states (in part), a method for indicating the location of time dependent video hypervideo hyperlinks to a user, comprising the steps of:

providing the user, at time of viewing, with at least one user selectable display attribute for said hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region.

Clearly, the claimed method provides the user with at least one user selectable display attribute for the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region. Applicants' claimed invention addresses run-time hypervideo hyperlink indicator options. Referring to page 24, lines 13-23, it is stated,

The hypervideo player of the present invention provides options for various forms of user-selectable display attributes for hypervideo hyperlink emphasis regions. The preferred embodiment includes four main hypervideo hyperlink emphasis regions display attributes: 1) surrounding the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region with a white border; 2) displaying the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region as a specific color; 3) displaying the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region in gray-scale (i.e., black-and-white) video, while the rest of the video is in color; and 4) displaying the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region in reverse color mode. While only four display attributes have been discussed in the current embodiment of the invention, the invention may have more, less and different user-selectable hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region display attributes without departing from the scope of the invention. (emphasis added)

Contrary to the statements presented in the Office Action's "Response to Arguments" section, Applicants respectfully submit that Rangan does not in fact disclose or suggest that for which the Office Action cites and relies on Rangan. The Office Action maintains that Rangan discloses providing the user, at the time of viewing, with at least one user selectable display attribute. The Office Action states that the disclosed "real time" (Rangan, col. 9, ln. 1-11), i.e., hours and minutes; tool and buttons (Rangan, col. 10, ln. 47-67; and thumbnail images (Rangan, col. 26, ln. 3-28 and Figs. 2, 4) as supporting this allegation.

However, it is noted that Rangan, starting at col. 8, ln. 66, states that "the received digital hypervideo is decoded/decompressed, and physically (alternatively,

"displayed") and/or optionally, recorded in real time." This relied upon citation in no way discloses or even suggests providing a user with at least one user selectable display attribute for the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region, as claimed. It merely states that the hypervideo is played or, optionally, recorded in real time. No suggestion is made of providing the user with at least one user selectable display attribute for the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis. The real time aspect refers to the playing of the hypervideo. There is no disclosure of the real time referring to a user selectable display option or, more particularly, the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region.

Regarding the tools and buttons disclosed at col. 10, ln. 47-67, it is respectfully submitted that tools and buttons refer to the controls of the Rangan VOW™ VCR. As such, the tools and buttons refer to the storing of the hypervideo, playing of the hypervideo, and the following of hyperlinks in the hypervideo (col. 10, ln. 58 - col. 11, ln. 6). The VOW™ VCR control "buttons" are disclosed as being similar to the manner of the controls of a conventional VCR. A conventional VCR does not provide at least one user selectable display attribute for a hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region. There is no disclosure or suggestion that the VOW™ VCR control buttons of Rangan provide at least one user selectable display attribute for a hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region either.

Regarding the asserted thumbnail images at col. 26, ln. 3-28 and Figs. 2 and 4, Rangan discloses that the thumbnail images 74 reference the most recently defined and delineated images by video server 9., corresponding to hyperlinks in the hypervideo. There is no disclosure or suggestion of providing at least one user

selectable display attribute for a hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region, as claimed by Applicants.

Thus, it should be clear that Rangan in fact does not disclose or suggest providing at least one user selectable display attribute for a hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region, as claimed by Applicants.

The Office Action also maintains that Rangan teaches an options menu listing of the at least one user selectable display attribute (Rangan, elements 73 and 74, and Figs. 2 and 4). However, it is noted that the elements 73 and 74 are not in fact option menu listings for a user selectable display attribute of the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region (as claimed), but instead reference "buttons" 73 of the VOR™ VCR or thumbnail images of the hypervideo indicating the progress thereof (Rangan, col. 25, ln. 19-32). While the elements 73 (i.e., buttons) and 74 (i.e., thumbnail images) may be selectable by the user, neither cited and relied upon element refers to a hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region, as claimed by Applicants.

As previously explained by Applicants, Rangan does not appear to be concerned with or appreciate the problem addressed by Applicants. Accordingly, Rangan does not provide the user with user selectable display attributes for the display of the hypervideo therein, and particularly not the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region, as claimed by Applicants.

Applicant is aware that a reference cited and relied upon in combination with another reference for a rejection under 35 USC 103(a) is not to be rebutted individually, but as cited in the alleged combination. Applicant does not argue against the Rangan reference individually but instead highlights the deficiencies of

Rangan (as cited and relied upon by the Office) to clearly and factually illustrate the failings of the alleged combination of Rangan and Chen references.

Regarding the Office's reliance on Chen, it is respectfully submitted that the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region disclosed by Chen, even if it were somehow combined with the disclosure of Rangan, would not result in the Applicants' claimed invention. This is true since Rangan fails to (at least) disclose providing the user with user selectable display attributes for the display of the hypervideo therein, as discussed above.

Regarding the alleged and relied upon motivation for modifying Rangan by adding the hypervideo hyperlink emphasis region disclosed in Chen; it is reiterated from the earlier response that the purpose of a user being able to alter and manipulate a visual attribute of the hot link region was disclosed as being an objective in Chen. As such, it appears to have provided, at most, motivation for the invention of Chen that differs from Applicants' claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited and relied upon combination of Rangan and Chen fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of Applicants' claimed invention as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited combination of Rangan and Chen.

Claim 11 is worded similarly to claim 1, and claim 12 depends from claim 11. It is respectfully submitted that claim 11 is patentable over Rangan and Chen for at least the reasons stated above regarding claim 1. Thus, claim 12 is also believed to be patentable.

Regarding claim 3, the Office's citation to col. 15, ln. 41-60 and Figs. 2, 4 fails to disclose or suggest Applicants' claimed method further comprising the step of

displaying to the user, at the time of viewing, an options menu listing said at least one user selectable display attributes, wherein said displaying of said options menu is selectively controlled by the user. (emphasis added)

In fact, referring to Rangan, col. 22, ln. 42-45 and col. 26, ln. 40-45, it appears that the web designer, and not the Subscriber/User/Viewer (SUV) determines the display attributes. That is, the display attributes are not user selectable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited and relied upon combination of Rangan and Chen fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of Applicants' claimed invention as recited in claim 3.

Claim 4 depends from claim 3. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is patentable over the cited and relied upon Rangan and Chen.

The rejections of claims 5 and 6 are based on the reasoning provided for the rejection of claim 1. As discussed above, it is Applicants' belief that claim 1 is patentable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited and relied upon combination of Rangan and Chen fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of Applicants' claimed invention as recited in claims 5 and 6.

The remaining rejected claims, named claims 8-10, 15, and 17 rely on the rejections of claims 3-5, 1, and 2, respectively, discussed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited and relied upon combination of Rangan and Chen fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of Applicants' claimed invention as recited in claim 8-10, 15, and 17 for at least the reasons stated above regarding claims 3-5; 1, and 2, respectively.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims 1-17 clearly distinguish over the cited and relied upon references for at least the reasons expressed above. Accordingly, the reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 103(a) rejection are requested, and the allowance of claims 1-17 is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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